



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2003/0220657A1	11/27/2003	ADAMS.	
		US- 2004/0044364A1	03/04/2004	DeVries et al.	
		US- 2004/0087976	05/06/04	DeVries et al.	
		US- 5,897,562	04/27/99	Bolanos et al.	
		US- 5,403,326	04/04/95	Harrison et al.	
		US- 5,887,594	03/30/1999	LoCicero, III	
		US- 2002/0078967	06/2002	Sixto et al.	
		US- 2002/0082621	06/2002	Schurr et al.	
		US- 2002/0198541	12/2002	Smith et al.	
		US- 5,411,508	05/1995	Bessler et al.	
		US- 6,302,311	10/2001	Adams et al.	
		US- 5,571,116	11/05/1996	Bolanos et al.	
		US- 6,663,639	12/16/2003	Laufer	
		US- 2003/0055442	03/20/03	Laufer	
		US- 2002/0040226	04/04/2002	Laufer	
		US- 2003/0187465	10/02/03	Baily, et al.	
		US- 6,086,600	07/11/2000	Kortenbach	
		US- 5,254,126.	10/19/1993	Filipi et al.	
		US- 6,551,333	04/22/03	Kuhns, et al.	
		US- 6,447,524	09/10/02	Knodel, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/783,717
		Filing Date	February 20, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Steve G. Baker
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	2234-3-3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

3

of

3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/783,717
Filing Date	February 20, 2004
First Named Inventor	Steve G. Baker
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number

2234-3-3

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Myths of the esophagus; Lucius D. Hill; The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery; vol. 98, No. 1; July 1989; pp 1-10	
		The Gastroesophageal Flap Valve; L.D. Hill et al., J Clin Gastroenterol 1999;28(3):194-197; Lippincot williams & Wilkins, Inc., Philadelphia	
		The gastroesophageal flap valve: in vitro and in vivo observations; Lucius D. Hill et al.; Gastrointestinal Endoscopy; Vol. 44, No. 5, 1996; pp 541-547	
		Reappraisal of the flap valve mechanism in the gastroesophageal junction: A study of a new valvuloplasty procedure in cadavers; KjellB.A. Thor et al.; Acta Chir Scand 153:25-28, 1987	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.